

## TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

It is but just to the soldiers composing the army now upon your soil that the motives which caused them to take up arms should be plainly and candidly stated. They have been grossly misrepresented to you by designing and unscrupulous aspirants who seek to become rulers on the ruins of a great and happy country, and their intentions have been studiously misstated. We speak in their behalf, therefore, from a sense of justice and duty, and we ask you to hear us calmly and hereafter to judge us by our acts.

The troops who fight under the star spangled banner wage no war of aggression. They seek not to oppress the weak nor to inflict injury upon the innocent. They have no desire to injure private property or interfere with private business; and when this is done unavoidably it will be regretted by none more than by themselves. They have come among you to reestablish peace and order, and to reconstruct a Government which for more than three-quarters of a century proved to be all that the people of the South as well as of the North desired. They ask only that the Constitution framed by our fathers be continued unimpaired—that all its precepts be held sacred; and that the many blessings handed down to us by our ancestors be permitted to descend to our posterity.

They are not unmindful of the fact that Virginia and the North, and particularly Pennsylvania, are linked together by many sacred ties, as well as by the strongest bonds of interest.

They are not willing that these sacred ties shall be ruthlessly sundered at the bidding of such men as have precipitated the South into a most unholy revolution. Can you censure them for entertaining such views? Can you who boast of the Old Dominion because she was the mother of Statesmen, blame us of the North for revering the lessons those Statesmen have taught us? We think not; and hence we expect to find friends in all but those who have fallen victims to the most insane prejudices, and who will no longer hear the voice of reason.

We look forward to the time when the American Union shall be reconstructed in all its grandeur and power, and when the people of every State from Maine to California and from Minnesota to Florida shall be united again under a common Government, and enjoy together all the blessings of liberty.

### THE VOICE OF WASHINGTON.

In that memorable document, Washington's Farewell Address, the following language occurs. We ask the people of Virginia and of the South to read and ponder well upon it:

To the efficacy and permanency of your Union, a Government for the whole is indispensable. No alliance, however strict between the parts, can be an adequate substitute; they must inevitably experience the infractions and interruptions which all alliances, in all times, have experienced. Sensible of this momentous truth, you have improved upon your first essay, by the adoption of a Constitution of Government better calculated than your former for an intimate Union, and for the efficacious management of your common concerns.—This Government, the offspring of our own choice, uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribution of its powers uniting security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendment, has a just claim to your confidence and your support. Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures, are duties enjoined by the fundamental maxims of true liberty. The bases of our political system, is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of Government: but the Constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish Government, pre-supposes the duty of every individual to obey the established Government.

### "THE AMERICAN UNION."

In justice to all engaged on this issue of the best Union paper ever printed in Martinsburg, Virginia, some explanation should be made as to the manner in which the project originated and was carried out. At dark on the evening of the 3rd two disciples of Faust came to the writer of these lines and proposed to get out a newspaper for the glorious 4th. The idea was adopted, was submitted to the high authorities and approved of by them, and volunteer printers were then called for. They stepped out by dozens, proving the patriotism of the craft, and at ten o'clock the squad of twelve entered the office of the "Virginia Republican," struck a light, found plenty of paper ink, &c., and went to work. The result of the night's labor is before you, reader, and under the circumstances we have no apology to make for its imperfections.

## The Star Spangled Banner.

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad Stripes and bright Stars, through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming,  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our FLAG was still there,  
O! say does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave?  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.  
  
On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep,  
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses,  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines on the stream,  
'Tis the Star Spangled Banner, O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.  
  
And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war, and the battle's confusion,  
A home and a country should leave us no more,  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution,  
No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave,  
And the Star Spangled Banner, in triumph shall wave,  
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.  
  
O! thus be it ever when freeman shall stand  
Between their loved homes, and the war's desolation;  
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land,  
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation,  
Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "IN GOD IS OUR TRUST."  
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave,  
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.